

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 115669  
ORIGIN AF-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 NSCE-00 SP-02 IO-13 ARA-10 EUR-12  
SS-15 PM-05 CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 SSO-00 INRE-00  
/078 R

DRAFTED BY AF/C:WLSWING:LA  
APPROVED BY AF:WCHARROP  
NSC:TTHORNTON  
S/P:MSPIEGEL  
AF/W:RGHOUDEK  
ARA/CCA:WSMITH  
IO/UNP:SESCUDERO

-----030675 060033Z /73

O 060002Z MAY 78  
FM SECSTATE WASHDC  
TO AMEMBASSY KINSHASA IMMEDIATE  
INFO AMEMBASSY MONROVIA IMMEDIATE  
AMEMBASSY ABIDJAN IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 115669

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PDIP,CG

SUBJECT: CONSULTATIONS WITH GOZ ON AFRICAN DEVELOPMENTS

REF: (A) KINSHASA 4058 (NOTAL); (B) KINSHASA 3806 (NOTAL);  
(C) KINSHASA 3401; (D) MONROVIA 3377 (NOTAL); (E) STATE  
83987 TOSEC 030167

1. DEPARTMENT APPRECIATES IMPORTANCE OF DEALING WITHOUT  
FURTHER DELAY WITH PROBLEM YOU HAVE DESCRIBED (KINSHASA  
4058, 3806, AND 3401) OF MOBUTU'S SENSITIVITIES GROWING  
OUT OF A PERCEIVED COOLNESS AND INATTENTIVENESS IN  
WASHINGTON TO HIS DESIRE TO CONSULT ON MAJOR REGIONAL  
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ISSUES, ESPECIALLY THOSE OF IMMEDIATE SECURITY CONCERN SUCH  
AS HEIGHTENED CUBAN/SOVIET ACTIVITIES IN CONTIGUOUS  
COUNTRIES. WE SHARE YOUR VIEW ON NEED TO GIVE MOBUTU A  
RESPONSE TO THE QUESTION OF GROWING CUBAN PRESENCE WHICH  
HE ASKED PRESIDENT TOLBERT TO RAISE WITH THE PRESIDENT  
DURING HIS STOP IN LIBERIA (MONROVIA 3377).

2. SO FAR AS CAN BE DETERMINED QUESTION DID NOT ARISE DURING PRESIDENT'S MONROVIA STOP. NONETHELESS, GIVEN THE DESIRABILITY OF RESPONDING TO MOBUTU IN THE MATTER HE RAISED, YOU ARE AUTHORIZED TO DRAW ON THE FOLLOWING POINTS, WHICH THE WHITE HOUSE HAD EARLIER APPROVED FOR THE

PRESIDENT'S USE WITH TOLBERT ON THIS QUESTION:

-- YOUR MESSAGE, CONVEYED THROUGH PRESIDENT TOLBERT, IN REGARD TO CUBAN ACTIVITIES IN COUNTRIES BORDERING ZAIRE WAS SHOWN TO THE PRESIDENT. I AM INSTRUCTED TO ASSURE YOU THAT WE CONTINUE TO SHARE YOUR CONCERNS AND WILL GO ON DOING WHAT WE CAN, AS WE HAVE DONE IN THE PAST, TO SUPPORT ZAIRE'S SECURITY AND TERRITORIAL INTEGRITY;

-- WE WISH TO ASSURE PRESIDENT MOBUTU THAT WE ARE AWARE OF THE SITUATION IN CENTRAL AFRICA AND ARE WATCHING THE DEVELOPMENTS CLOSELY; IN THIS CONNECTION THE PRESENCE OF CUBAN TROOPS IN ANGOLA REMAINS AN IMPORTANT OBSTACLE TO OUR ESTABLISHMENT OF DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS WITH ANGOLA AND, IN OUR VIEW, TO A NATIONAL RECONCILIATION AMONG ANGOLAN FACTIONS;

-- THE US IS PARTICULARLY SENSITIVE TO ZAIRE'S LEGITIMATE SECURITY CONCERNS, GIVEN THE MARCH 1977 SHABA INVASION AND SUBSEQUENT GUERRILLA ACTIVITY ALONG AND ACROSS ITS CONFIDENTIAL

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SOUTHERN BORDERS; WE CONTINUE TO REGARD ZAIRE AS AN IMPORTANT AND STRATEGIC COUNTRY WITH A MAJOR ROLE TO PLAY IN AFRICA; WE THEREFORE HAVE AN INTEREST IN SEEING ZAIRE REMAIN STRONG AGAINST EXTERNAL THREATS;

-- THIS INTEREST IS EVIDENCED BY SUBSTANTIAL FMS AND IMET PROGRAMS IN ZAIRE (OUR LARGEST IN SUB-SAHARAN AFRICA) AND OUR COOPERATION WITH ZAIRE, BELGIUM AND FRANCE IN HELPING TO REORGANIZE ZAIRE'S ARMED FORCES;

-- WE HOPE TO CONTINUE OUR CLOSE COOPERATION ON SECURITY MATTERS AND BELIEVE THAT THIS ASSISTANCE, AND SIMILAR EFFORTS BY ZAIRE AND OUR ALLIES, WILL ENABLE ZAIRE TO MEET ANY EXTERNAL THREAT THAT CUBAN PRESENCE IN NEIGHBORING COUNTRIES MAY POSE;

-- IN THE MEANTIME, WE ARE ENCOURAGED THAT ZAIRE IS PERSEVERING IN EFFORTS TO SETTLE ITS BORDER PROBLEMS WITH ANGOLA THROUGH DIPLOMATIC NEGOTIATIONS SUCH AS THE JANUARY TALKS WITH MPLA REPRESENTATIVES AT BRAZZAVILLE.

3. FOR MONROVIA: AS SUBJECT APPARENTLY WAS NOT DISCUSSED,

YOU MAY WISH TO DRAW ON FOREGOING POINTS WITH TOLBERT IN  
LIEU OF FORMAL PRESIDENTIAL REPLY TO HIS LETTER CONTAINED  
MONROVIA 3377. CHRISTOPHER

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 jan 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** DIPLOMATIC DISCUSSIONS, FOREIGN POLICY POSITION, POLITICAL SITUATION  
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**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 06 may 1978  
**Decaption Date:** 01 jan 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 20 Mar 2014  
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**Disposition History:** n/a  
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**Executive Order:** GS  
**Errors:** N/A  
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**TAGS:** PDIP, CG, US  
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**Type:** TE  
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